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82D CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

} REPORT
No. 1919

KENJI KUSUMOTO

JUNE 27, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 2906]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 2906) for the relief of Kenji Kusumoto, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to waive the racial barrier to admission into the United States in behalf of the Japanese husband of a United States citizen and the father of two United States citizen children.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a native and citizen of Japan who was married on November 3, 1944, in China to Grace Y. Kusumoto, a United States citizen. Mrs. Kusumoto had gone to China in 1939 to start and manage an orphan asylum for Chinese children. Of this marriage there are two children, both of whom are citizens of the United States. Mrs. Kusumoto is presently employed by the United States Army in Japan.

Congressman Donald L. Jackson, the author of the bill, submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives the following information in support of the bill:

AFFIDAVIT OF JOSEPH R. ANDERSON—REPORT ON PRIVATE BILL H. R. 2906 FOR
ADMISSION OF KENJI KUSUMOTO TO THE UNITED STATES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
Santa Barbara County, ss:

Joseph R. Anderson, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

1. I am a licensed attorney located at 463 Paseo del Descanso, Santa Barbara.
2. I am acquainted through correspondence with the Kusumoto family as well as through my son and daughter-in-law, who served with them in Japan.

3. I make this affidavit to assist the Department in its recommendation.
 4. I attach hereto and make a part hereof, as exhibit A, an affidavit of Grace Y. Kusumoto, wife of the above immigrant.
 5. A copy of her second passport as a United States citizen attached (exhibit B¹).
 6. Evidence of her marriage, including copies and translation of both of their family registries and original witnesses (exhibit C).
 7. Statement of Lois Lucille Anderson, daughter-in-law of affiant; present address: 2133 Derby Street, Berkeley, Calif. (exhibit D).
 8. The elder Mr. Kusumoto was founder and superintendent of the Japanese Children's Home at 1941 Radcliff, Los Angeles, Calif. Grace Y. Kusumoto was raised in this home. After her father by adoption had worked for 50 years in social-welfare work in California he was returned to Japan in 1943, and in February 1945 died broken hearted.
 9. At the marriage of Grace Y. Kusumoto (November 3, 1944) to Kenji Wada, a younger son, he had his name changed to Kusumoto to honor and perpetuate the old man's memory (exhibit C).
 10. Grace has given her whole life to helping others, including 200 Chinese orphans. Her administration of the distribution of packages of clothing sent by affiant was beyond criticism (exhibit E).
 11. Kenji is a graduate accountant and real-estate broker. He loves children and would consent to his loved ones going to the United States without him if he cannot go. He unselfishly changed his name. The two children have been registered as United States citizens (exhibit F).
 12. Exhibit G is a letter from N. Mitsumore, 419 North Vernon, Pasadena 3, Calif., in re work in the Japanese Children's Home. Additional witnesses are listed in exhibit H.
- Affiant requests a favorable report on H. R. 2906 and requirements as to guaranteeing that Kenji will not become a public charge.

JOSEPH R. ANDERSON,
Attorney for Kenji Kusumoto.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this October 8, 1951.

[SEAL]

E. J. MEGAS,
Notary Public in and for Santa Barbara County, Calif.

My commission expires March 18, 1952.

EXHIBIT A—SUPPLEMENTAL DATA ON IMMIGRATION OF KENJI KUSUMOTO
(PRIVATE BILL H. R. 2906)

JAPAN,

Kyoto Prefecture, ss:

Grace Y. Kusumoto, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

1. That I am petitioner for admission of my husband to the United States. That I was born in Los Angeles, Calif., April 15, 1915. I have no birth certificate, as my parents are unknown. I received my first passport in June 1935 as the result of court action to prove that I was born and that I was an American citizen. This took place in the Los Angeles court sometime in the beginning of that same year. I was adopted by Mr. Joy R. Kusumoto, of 1841 Redcliff Street, Los Angeles, Calif. Enclosed is a copy of my second passport (exhibit B¹).
2. I left the United States in May 26, 1939, and went to China to start and manage an orphan asylum for Chinese children.
3. I married a Japanese citizen, Kenji Wada, on November 3, 1944. (He took my name, an old Japanese custom when there is no one to carry on the family name.) We were married in Shanghai at a Shinto shrine. Japanese do not issue marriage certificates. (I enclose a letter signed by two witnesses of the marriage ceremony.) He was born on September 19, 1918 (exhibit C).
4. There are two children as the issue of said marriage; a girl named Taeko Kusumoto, born April 29, 1946, at Kyushu, Japan, a boy named Yoichi Kusumoto, born August 18, 1948, at Kyoto, Japan. Our application is for the admission of the family of said four, including children, myself, and husband.
5. I founded and ran the orphan asylum. I am now employed by the United States Army in Japan, Camp Kyoto, Adjutant General Section, Dependent Housing. My prior employment was also with the Army, as assistant to Lucile Anderson in charge of social welfare. Her present address is 2133 Derby, Berkeley, Calif. (Exhibit D).

¹In committee files.

6. My husband was raised in Akita Prefecture until he was 18 years old. He then engaged in business of importing and exporting in Shanghai, China. He is now engaged in real estate. We are both in good health and very willing to do manual labor. (Exhibit E).

7. We can pay our way to Santa Barbara, Calif., where we have reasonable prospect of employment.

GRACE Y. KUSUMOTO,
Headquarters, Camp Kyoto, Adjutant General Section, Dependent Housing.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th of September 1951.

JAMES E. DAVIS,
Captain, Adjutant General Corps,
Assistant Adjutant.

EXHIBIT C

SEPTEMBER 17, 1951.

To Whom It May Concern:

We certify that we did attend and witness the marriage of Mr. Kenji Wada (before he took his wife's name) and Miss Grace Y. Kusumoto. The ceremony took place in a Shinto shrine located on Canwan Road, Shanghai, China, on the 3d of November 1944.

MISS MICHIKO ROKUSHIMA,
Yoshida Boshiryo Nursery (Tracher) (was in Shanghai from 1939 to 1945).

MR. SIGEJI HAGIYA,
Kyoto City Welfare Department (Official) (was in Shanghai from 1935 to 1945).

EXPLANATION

We were married in Shanghai on the 3d of November 1944. We sent in through the Shanghai branch office of the registry department our registration of marriage and the succession of my husband to the family title. Due to the war, nothing reached the ward offices of either my father's registry or my husband's. We were obliged to reregister after we repatriated to Japan on April 25, 1946. Therefore, the difference of the dates on our family registries.

I am including these two copies of our family registry as that is all the Japanese have as proof that anyone is legally married. Also, I am enclosing a signed statement of two of the witnesses to the marriage ceremony of Shanghai.

Enclosed you will find two pictures of my family.

GRACE Y. KUSUMOTO.

EXHIBIT D—COPY OF STATEMENT GIVEN BY MRS. LOIS ANDERSON RE KENJI KUSUMOTO

I have known Mr. and Mrs. Kusumoto since 1947, at which time I was employed in the same office as an assistant to Mrs. Putnam, welfare officer, Kyoto Military Government Team, United States Army, at Kyoto, Japan, and as acting welfare officer during Mrs. Putnam's absence of 2 months.

Mrs. Grace Y. Kusumoto was employed as a foreign national in the welfare office of the said military government team, since she had been born in Los Angeles, Calif., and is an American citizen.

Her duties consisted in checking the status of Japanese welfare claims, visiting children's institutions, interpreting as needed, acting as liaison between the occupation welfare office and the Japanese welfare office as needed, and in general covering all phases of welfare work of the occupation.

We worked very closely together, and I always found Mrs. Kusumoto to be unquestionably loyal, completely dependable, self-reliant, industrious, resourceful, conscientious, and very cooperative.

She has been in charge of children's institutions in Los Angeles before the war and in China during the war, and gives selflessly of herself. She is the kind of person upon whom others rely in time of need.

She married Kenji Kusumoto, a Japanese citizen, in China during the war, and they have two children. She has set her heart on returning to the United States with her family if the above bill be passed.

While I am not as well acquainted with Kenji Kusumoto, I have always found him to be most dependable, loyal, and cooperative. He is interested in children and welfare work, and I feel he would make a very good citizen of this country.

I left Japan in December 1948 and now live at 2133 Derby Street, Berkeley, Calif., but I have kept in contact with the Kusumoto family and I understand

that Mrs. Kusumoto is now employed in the Adjutant General Section, Dependent Housing, for United States Army officers at Kyoto, Japan.

Above statement was made to me in writing by Mrs. Anderson.

JOSEPH R. ANDERSON.

EXHIBIT E—CURRICULUM VITAE

Grace Yasu Kusumoto:

Born April 15, 1915.

American home address: 1841 Redcliff Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

Present address: 472, Honmachi dori, 21 chome, Higashi-yama-ku, Kyoto, Honshu, Japan.

School career:

June 1934: Graduated from John Marshall High School, Los Angeles, Calif.

June 1934-35: Went to Japan for a trip.

August 1935: Entered Los Angeles Junior College.

June 1937: Graduated Los Angeles Junior College.

July 1937: Entered Pierce's Practical Nurses' Training School.

March 1938: Graduated Pierce's Practical Nurses' Training School.

Working career:

From 1930 to 1934 and from 1935 to 1937: Worked as assistant staff member of Japanese Children's Home, Los Angeles.

March 1938: Became matron of Japanese Children's Home.

May 1939: Resigned to go to China.

September 1939: Established a Chinese children's home in Kunshan, China.

April 1944: Turned over institution to Chinese charity organization, moved to Shanghai.

August 1944: Started day nursery for Japanese children in Shanghai.

August 1945: Closed day nursery due to ending of the war.

April 1946: Repatriated to Japan with husband.

August 1947: Took position with military government team, Kyoto (occupation).

November 1949: Office moved to Osaka and took the name "Kinki Civil Affairs Region."

October 1950: Am still here.

I swear the above statements are true. I have no criminal record or prison record.

GRACE YASU KUSUMOTO.

EXHIBIT F—CURRICULUM VITAE

Kenji Kusumoto:

Born September 19, 1918.

Permanent domicile: 1931, Yokkaichi-machi, Usa-gun Oita-Prefecture.

Residence: 472 Honmachi-dori, 21-chome Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto-shi, Kyoto Prefecture.

School career:

April 1933: Graduated Honjo Primary School, Akita Prefecture.

March 1935: Entered Iwakura Middle School, Tokyo. (Railway Bureau's school).

April 1938: Graduated above.

Business career:

May 1933: Joined Akita Construction Office.

February 1935: Resigned above to join the railway company (in China).

May 1938: Resigned railway and joined Sino Japan Trading Federation (in China).

April 1946: Repatriated to Japan.

April 1946: Joined Relief for Repatriates' Association (to find jobs for repatriates as they returned from places outside Japan).

April 1948: Association dissolved.

August 1948: Joined Kyoto real-estate firm.

January 1950: Started own real-estate business.

I swear the above statements are true. I have no criminal record or prison record.

KENJI KUSUMOTO.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 2906) should be enacted.